Just **DIE**, I'm Begging you

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第9話

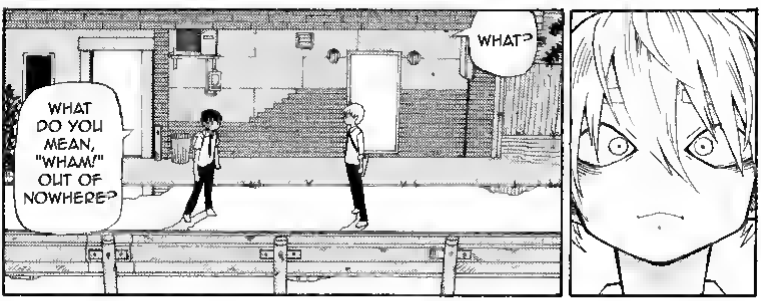
TRANSLATOR: NINJIN NINGEN

YOU KNOW THAT MANGA THAT'S BEING MADE INTO AN ANIME NOW? THE ONE WHERE THEY FIGHT THE ALIENS I BOUGHT ALL THE VOLUMES. IT'S REALLY FUNNY
WHAT ABOUT YOU, SAKUDA? WHAT KIND OF MANGA DO YOU LIKE?
OH, THAT ONE... HEY TSUBUKI, LET ME BORROW IT SOME TIME!
YEAH! IT'S AWESOME ISN'T IT!
OH, I BOUGHT THAT TOO! IT'S THE BEST MANGA OUT RIGHT NOW!
EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE IN HIGH SCHOOL YOU CAN STILL ENJOY MANGA FOR LITTLE KIDS I'M JEALOUS.
MY MY.

UM.. IT'S KINDA HARD TO PICK, THERE'S SO MANY...
ANYWAYS SAKUDA, WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE MANGA?
WOMEN REALLY ARE ROUGH. THEY HAVE SUCH BAD TASTE, THAT'S WHAT'S FUNNY
Pfft
THAT FROG COMIC IN THE SAME MAGAZINE IS FUNNY TOO, RIGHT!
COME ON, CALM DOWN TSUBUKI-SAN. DON'T PUT YOUR FOOT IN ANYONE'S ASS
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY TO ME, TADOKORO! MAYBE I SHOULD PUT MY FOOT UP YOUR ASS!

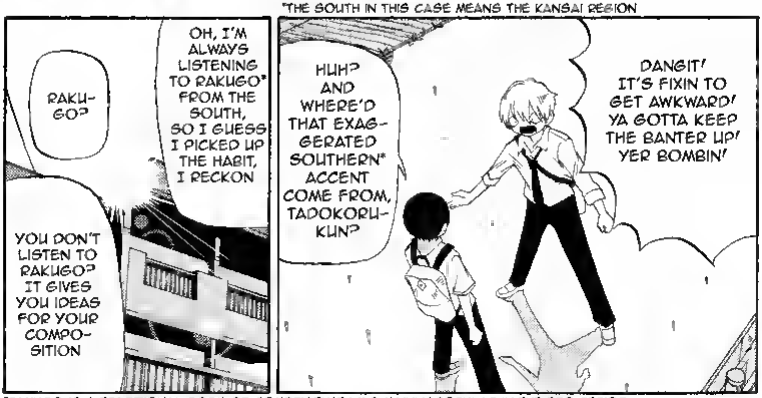
HE'S ALWAYS BY HIMSELF SO SOMETIMES I TRY TO TALK TO HIM, BUT EACH TIME I GET THE SAME SHITTY TREATMENT. IT PISSES ME OFF! PAY ME FOR DAMAGES! ABOUT 1.08 MILLION DOLLARS!
HEY! SALES TAX INCLUDED!
LET GO! STOP ACTING ALL INNOCENT! YOU HAVE THE SAME TASTES AS THAT GUY?!
TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, I'M NOT REALLY INTO THOSE TWO MANGA EITHER. BUT THAT'S JUST MY TASTE! PERSONAL PREFERENCE!

TEXT: WHAM!



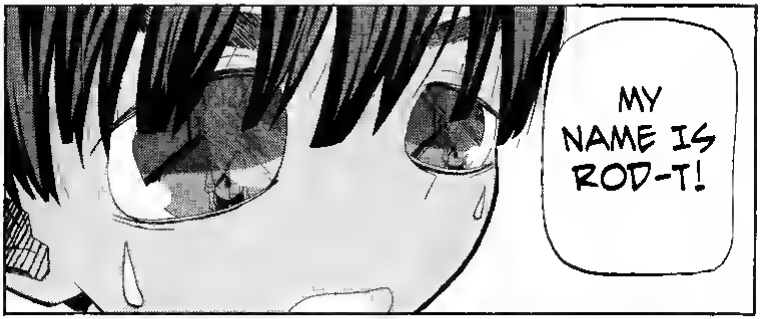
*THE 'BOKE' IS THE FUNNY MAN IN JAPANESE COMEDY DUOS THAT GETS CORRECTED BY THE STRAIGHT MAN

*THE SOUTH IN THIS CASE MEANS THE KANSAI REGION


OH, I'M ALWAYS LISTENING TO RAKUGO* FROM THE SOUTH, SO I GUESS I PICKED UP THE HABIT, I RECKON
RAKU-GO?
YOU DON'T LISTEN TO RAKUGO? IT GIVES YOU IDEAS FOR YOUR COMPO-SITION
HUH? AND WHERE'D THAT EXAG-GERATED SOUTHERN* ACCENT COME FROM, TADOKORU-KUN?
DANGIT! IT'S FIXIN TO GET AWKWARD! YA GOTTA KEEP THE BANTER UP! YER BOMBIN!

*RAKUGO IS A TRADITIONAL FORM OF COMEDY THAT WAS MAINLY POPULAR IN THE EDO PERIOD

HOW...
HOW DO YOU KNOW MY USER-NAME...
I RAN ACROSS THE INTRODUCTORY ISSUE ON A CERTAIN SUBREDDIT EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE CLEARLY AN AMATEUR I THOUGHT IT WAS PRETTY GOOD
YOU REGULARLY POST A GIRLS' SLICE-OF-LIFE MANGA ONLINE UNDER THE NAME SKD
YOU SAID YOU WANT TO DEBUT IN THE TOKYO SCENE SOON? THAT'S NO GOOD. AS LONG AS YOU'RE HIDING YOUR IDENTITY YOU MAY AS WELL GET BETTER FIRST
AND THEN I WAS CURIOUS SO I WENT TO SKD-SENSEI'S BLOG. FROM READING THE POSTS ABOUT YOUR EVERYDAY LIFE I FIGURED OUT IT WAS YOU
IT SEEMS IT'S PRETTY POPULAR ONLINE WELL IF EVEN I APPROVE OF IT, THAT'S ONLY NATURAL
I POST MY WORKS ON THE EXACT SAME SITE AS YOU.
WELL THEN, SHALL I REVEAL MY TRUE IDENTITY? I HAVE SOME BUSINESS WITH YOU.

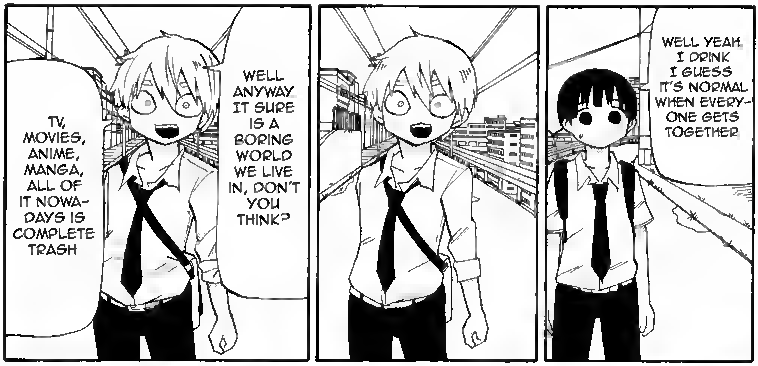

MY NAME IS ROD-T!

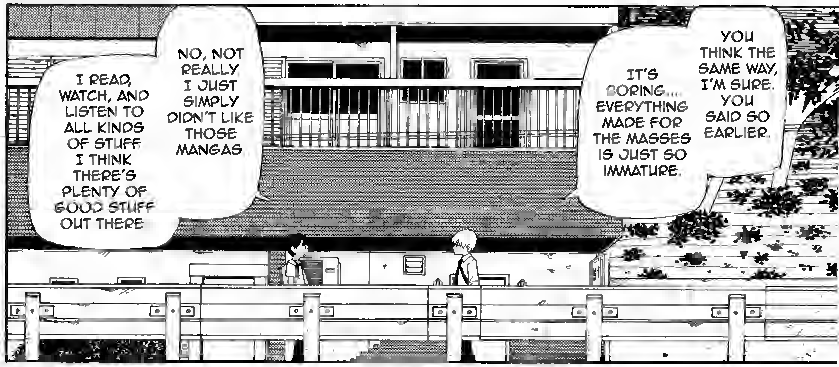
SORRY.. WHO?

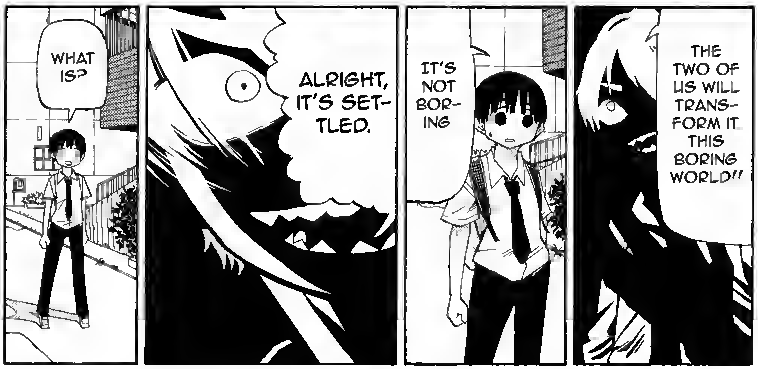
YOU MUST HAVE HEARD OF *THE EVERYDAY TROUBLES OF FUKUKUBO KAREN*, THE SURREAL COMEDY MANGA POSING AS A SLICE-OF-LIFE?
UM, SORRY, I DON'T REALLY LOOK AT OTHER PEOPLE'S MANGA

IF YOU'RE SO IGNORANT YOU'LL NEVER BE A PRO! DON'T YOU REALIZE WHAT BEING A PRO MEANS!?
SORRY I'LL TAKE IT MORE SERIOUSLY
WHY HAVEN'T YOU HEARD OF IT! I'M NOT BRAGGING BUT I EVEN GOT A COMMENT FROM MEAT-SALAD-MASTER-SAN, WHO HAS A HUGE INFLUENCE ON THAT SITE!
WHO'S THAT?
THE TITLE IS A'S EVERYDAY READ IT, I'M PROUD OF THIS ONE
UM, RIGHT NOW?
WELL, WHATEVER ACTUALLY I HAVE HERE A MANGA I SPENT ALL NIGHT DRAWING ESPECIALLY FOR YOU
HUH? WHY?

EVEN MY MOM LAUGHED AT MY MANGA, AND SHE NEVER EVEN LAUGHS AT TV COMEDIANS. SO THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT!
SHALL WE JOIN FORCES?
I'M GIVING YOU THE CHANCE TO DEBUT WHILE YOU'RE STILL IN HIGH SCHOOL
IN ANY CASE, BY JOINING UP WE'LL EASILY TAKE THE WEEKLY SHOUNEN MANGA PRIZE!
I'M SURE YOU'LL AGREE THAT MY JOKES ARE ALREADY PRO MATERIAL THIS IS THE MANUSCRIPT THAT I'LL HAVE YOU DO THE ARTWORK FOR FOR NEXT TIME
I TAKE PRIDE IN MY ARTWORK BUT IT'S DIFFICULT FOR PEOPLE IN JAPAN TO REALLY GET IT SO I'LL LEAVE THE ART TO YOU
OH?
YOU DON'T DRINK? IS IT JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE UNDERAGE? YOU RE SO OBEDIENT YOU ONLY LIVE ONCE YOU KNOW
HUH?
I'M JUST A NO GOOD SLACKER THAT CAN T LIVE WITHOUT HIS LIQUOR
BUT DAMN WHEN IT S SO HOT LIKE THIS, IT REALLY MAKES YOU WANT TO DRINK SOME LIQUOR


TV, MOVIES, ANIME, MANGA, ALL OF IT NOWADAYS IS COMPLETE TRASH
WELL ANYWAY IT SURE IS A BORING WORLD WE LIVE IN, DON'T YOU THINK?
WELL YEAH, I DRINK I GUESS IT'S NORMAL WHEN EVERYONE GETS TOGETHER


I READ, WATCH, AND LISTEN TO ALL KINDS OF STUFF I THINK THERE'S PLENTY OF GOOD STUFF OUT THERE
NO, NOT REALLY I JUST SIMPLY DIDN'T LIKE THOSE MANGAS
IT'S BORING.... EVERYTHING MADE FOR THE MASSES IS JUST SO IMMATURE.
YOU THINK THE SAME WAY, I'M SURE. YOU SAID SO EARLIER.


WHAT IS?
ALRIGHT, IT'S SETTLED.
IT'S NOT BORING
THE TWO OF US WILL TRANSFORM IT THIS BORING WORLD!!

FROM THIS DAY FORTH WE'RE FRIENDS!!
LET'S EXPERIENCE LOTS OF THINGS TOGETHER! TAKE IT ALL IN! OH YEAH, HOW ABOUT WE GO TO THE ZOO NEXT SUNDAY!
AFTERWARDS, WE'LL WALK AROUND TOWN AND DO STUFF LIKE LOOK AT CLOTHES AND GO TO THE ARCADE, AND AFTER THAT WE'LL GO TO A FAMILY RESTAURANT AND TALK ABOUT OUR FUTURE!
AHEM

SHUT THE FUCK UP ALREADY.
I ALREADY HAVE PLANS FOR SUNDAY ARE YOU NOT EVEN ABLE TO CONSIDER OTHER PEOPLE'S SITUATIONS? HUH?
WHY THE HELL HAVE YOU BEEN TALKING ON AND ON BY YOURSELF? IT'S AWKWARD FOR ME
AS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS? TWO GUYS? ARE YOU KIDDING ME?
WHY THE HELL WOULD I GO SOMEWHERE LIKE THE ZOO WITH YOU?

I UNDERSTAND YOUR TALENT BETTER THAN ANYONE
YOU SHOULD STOP HANGING AROUND THOSE SHEEPLE YOUR TALENT WILL GO TO WASTE I'M THE ONE THAT'S APPROPPIATE FOR YOU
NO UM, SAKUDA-KUN, YOU'RE...
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN WATCHING YOU AND YOU'RE DIFFERENT
AND STOP TALKING SHIT ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE'S GIRLFRIENDS
I WAS HONESTLY JUST ABOUT TO SMACK YOU... YOU DON'T KNOW A DAMN THING ABOUT TSUBUKI
YOU'VE BEEN CREEPING ME OUT SINCE BEFORE ARE YOU PLAYING FOR THE OTHER TEAM OR SOMETHING?
ESPECIALLY THAT TSUBUKI CHICK IS NO GOOD.
SHE SWEARS ALL THE TIME AND HER TASTE IS TERRIBLE. SHE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO FIND A BOYFRIEND.
WHY DO YOU ACT LIKE THAT? COME ON, THERE'S NO WAY WE COULD EVER BE FRIENDS
YOU KNOW,
I'M JUST CURIOUS, BUT DO YOU EVEN REALIZE HOW AWFUL YOUR OWN PERSONALITY IS?

I'M NOT TRYING TO!
I'M NOT TRYING TO ACT LIKE A BAD PERSON YOU KNOW!
I NEVER KNEW YOU THOUGHT I HAD A BAD PERSONALITY
I WAS JUST DOING IT FOR YOUR SAKE
WOAH DON'T SHOUT ALL THE SUDDEN
UGH, ARE YOU CRYING? YOU'RE BEYOND CREEPY

LIKE WHERE DO YOU COME OFF SAYING EVERYTHING IS BORING? IT'S BECAUSE YOU LACK THE SENSITIVITY TO FIND ENJOYMENT IN THINGS YOU'RE THE ONE THAT'S BORING
WELL, EVERYTHING I GUESS. WOW... YOU REALLY HAD NO IDEA? THAT'S ACTUALLY PRETTY AMAZING.
EXACTLY WHAT IS SO AWFUL ABOUT ME!?
AHHHH!
WHERE'D ALL THAT COME FROM? IS THAT COOL AND EDGY NOWADAYS? TO GO OUT OF YOUR WAY TO FORCE THE IDEA THAT POPULAR MANGA AND TV SHOWS ARE BORING?
THAT'S JUST SHALLOW. IN EVERY WAY YOU'RE JUST A PATHETIC HUMAN BEING.
WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO! IT REALLY, REALLY IS BORING! EVERYTHING!
WHY DO I HAVE TO BE THE ONE WITHOUT ANY FRIENDS THAT UNDER-STAND ME!?
THAT'S EXACTLY WHY I WAS HOPING IT WOULD DIFFERENT IF YOU WOULD'VE BEEN MY FRIEND!

IT'S BORING! BORING, BORING, BORING!
WHY IS IT ALWAYS BORING ONLY FOR ME! WHY CAN'T I EVER BECOME LIKE ONE OF YOU GUYS!
WHAT'S SO BAD ABOUT CALLING BORING THINGS BORING? IF YOU SAY WHAT YOU'RE THINKING THAT MEANS YOU HAVE A BAD PERSONALITY!?
CAN YOU GUYS UNDERSTAND HOW I MUST FEEL!? THE FEELINGS OF SOMEONE WHO'S ALL ALONE AND KNOWS NOTHING BUT BOREDOM?
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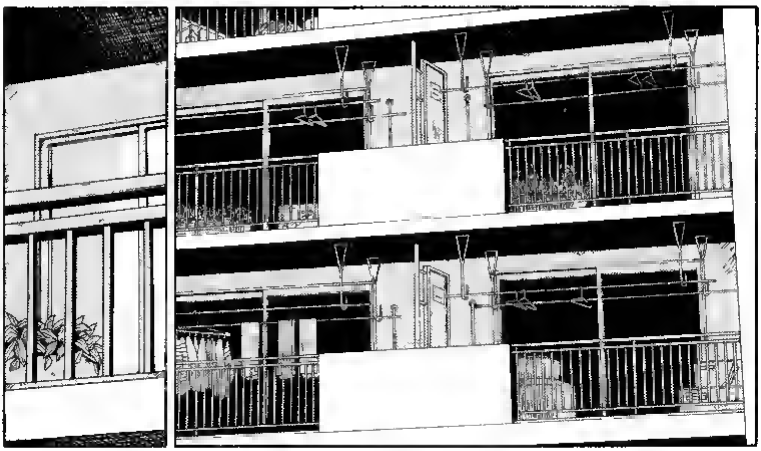
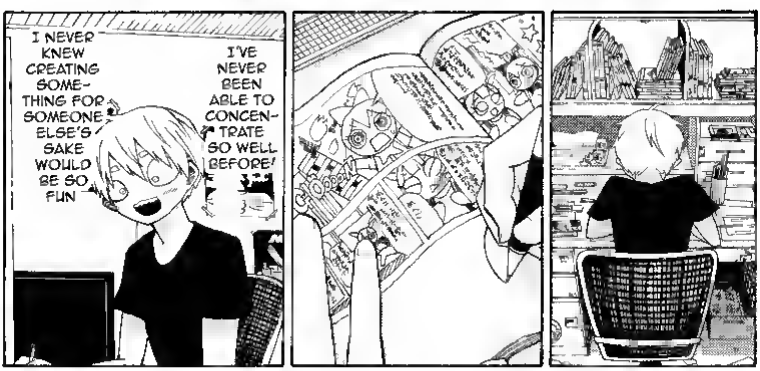
SAKUDA!? WHAT THE HECK IS GOING ON HERE?
WHO KNOWS
I JUST WANTED TO INTERACT AND EXPERIENCE THINGS WITH SOMEONE I LIKED. IF I'M SUCH A PATHETIC HUMAN BEING, WHY WON'T YOU JUST BE MY FRIEND. I'M VULNERABLE YOU KNOW!
IF YOU'RE ABLE TO THINK OF THE WORLD AS A FUN PLACE, WHY DON'T YOU SHOW ME HOW TO SEE IT THAT WAY! SHOW ME FUN THINGS TOO! WHY DID EVERYONE GET TOGETHER AND DECIDE TO MAKE ME THE ODD ONE OUT!

BUT...
LEAVE HIM ALONE. LET'S GO.
HEY, TADOKORO. WHAT HAPPENED? DID SAKUDA DO SOMETHING TO YOU? I'M SORRY. YOU CAN TELL ME.
UM, OKAY...
I'M SORRY I KEPT YOU WAITING, KARIN. LET'S GO.

I HOPE YOU DIE.
I WAS JUST LYING ABOUT WANTING TO BE FRIENDS! I GUESS I FOOLED YOU!
SAKUDA! YOU'RE THE ONE WITH A BAD PERSONALITY, STUPID!
YOU'RE A FRAUD! YOU'RE SUCH A FRAUD IT'S PATHETIC. SO JUST DIE!
YOU DON'T HAVE ANY TALENT AT ALL, SO JUST DIE, I'M BEGGING YOU!
THE FACT THAT YOU HAVE SUCH BAD TASTE IS THE FUNNIEST THING ABOUT IT.
OH YEAH! THAT MANGA YOU DREW WAS REALLY FUNNY, SENSEI!
I WISH YOU LUCK IN THIS LIFE STYLE WHERE YOU KEEP PILING UP LIES ON TOP OF LIES JUST TO DENY THE LIES YOU MADE BEFORE, ROD-T-SENSEI
Die, Die, Die!
Die, die, die, die, die, die, die!




I NEVER KNEW CREATING SOMETHING FOR SOMEONE ELSE'S SAKE WOULD BE SO FUN
I'VE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO CONCENTRATE SO WELL BEFORE!

OH? DID YOU STAY UP THE ENTIRE NIGHT?
YEAH KINDA HEY MOM, READ THIS THE TITLE IS A'S EVERYDAY
TAKUYA! IT'S MORNING, TIME TO WAKE UP!
TODAY I'M GONNA GATHER MY COURAGE AND TALK TO SAKUDA-KUN FOR THE FIRST TIME
HEY, BE CAREFUL! DON'T RUN!
BYE MOM!
OKAY, I'M LEAV-ING!
OH, BUT YOUR BREAK-FAST?
HEHE YOU'RE GOOD AT DRAWING COMICS THIS IS FUNNY
TODAY SOMETHING'S DEFINITELY GONNA CHANGE, I CAN FEEL IT!
I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW EXCITED I AM!